



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FEBRUARY 26, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**KC, LEE'S SUMMIT, INDEPENDENCE,  
EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, SPICKARD MEN INDICTED  
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that 12 defendants were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for illegally possessing firearms.

\* **Jerry Dean Urick**, 37, of Spickard, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of two firearms in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Urick** was in possession of a Keystone Sporting Arms .22 caliber bolt-action rifle and an ERA 12-gauge shotgun on Feb. 7, 2004, in Grundy County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Urick** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for passing bad checks, a 1998 criminal felony conviction for forgery, a 1994 criminal felony conviction for burglary and driving while intoxicated, a 1986 criminal felony conviction for forgery and escape and a 1985 criminal felony conviction for burglary and stealing.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Grundy County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Cortez L. Williams**, 30, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Williams** was in possession of a Glock 40 caliber semi-automatic pistol on Jan. 9, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Williams** has two 1996 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance and trafficking drugs, a 1995 criminal felony

conviction for tampering, and a 1993 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Kenneth W. Sexton**, 20, of Independence, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Sexton** was in possession of a Bryco Arms .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol on Feb. 1, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Sexton** has four 2003 criminal felony convictions for assault and possession of a controlled substance and a 2002 criminal felony conviction for leaving the scene of an accident.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michealsen. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Ellery H. Beals**, 21, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Beals** was in possession of a .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol on Feb. 24, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Beals** has one 2003 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance, two 2003 criminal felony convictions for unlawful use of a weapon and one 2003 criminal felony conviction for drug trafficking.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Michael A. Lighthill**, 35, of Excelsior Springs, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Lighthill** was in possession of a High Standard .22 caliber revolver on Nov. 15, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Lighthill** has two 2002 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance and two 1990 criminal felony convictions for robbery and an insufficient funds check.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Tyrone B. Spencer**, 25, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of two firearms in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Spencer** was in possession of a Glock .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol and a Glock .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol on Nov. 25, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Spencer** has one 2001 criminal felony conviction for possession with intent to sell and two 1999 criminal felony convictions for sale of a controlled substance and tampering.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **James E. Moland**, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Moland** was in possession of a Norinco SKS semi-automatic rifle on Dec. 27, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Moland** has three criminal felony convictions for tampering, burglary and robbery.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Anthony E. Smith**, 30, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Smith** was in possession of a SWD 9 mm semi-automatic pistol on Feb. 10, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Smith** has one 1998 criminal felony conviction for trafficking and two 1994 criminal felony convictions for sale of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Charles A. Smith**, 23, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Smith** was in possession of a CN Romarm 7.62 x 39 mm assault rifle on Feb. 6, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Smith** has three 2003 criminal felony convictions for trafficking drugs, unlawful use of a weapon and possession of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Timothy F. Norman**, 39, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Norman** was in possession of a Savage .270 caliber bolt-action rifle on Jan. 27, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Norman** has a 1991 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon, a 1984 criminal felony conviction for assault with a deadly weapon and a 1982 criminal felony conviction for aggravated robbery.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Andre D. Smith**, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Smith** was in possession of approximately 382 rounds of ammunition on Feb. 10, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Smith** has a 2003 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Saleem M. Nelson**, 24, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Nelson** was in possession of a Highpoint rifle on Feb. 12, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Nelson** has a 2003 criminal felony conviction for trafficking.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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